computer 1.

The number of times of check-out indicates the number of times of check-out which can be made for the contents. In the event that the number of times of check-out is set at "-1", the number of times of that check-out can be made for the contents is unlimited.

The file name is a file name containing a path made up of, for example, a drive name and a folder name. The rights information storing unit 105 stores the name of the file where the contents are stored (stored in the music piece file storing unit 108-1 or 108-2) at the point that the contents are registered (either the point that the contents are stored, or the point that data relating to the contents is registered in the database 107) as the file name thereof.

In the example shown in Fig. 7, the contents wherein the media contents ID is 1 has a music piece title of "Song-A", an equipment ID of "0x001BA63F", an equipment contents ID of "0x0083", the number of times of check-out of "0", and the file name of thereof is "F:¥MyMusic¥Album¥01-Song-a.omg". The contents wherein the media contents ID is 2 has a music piece title of "Song-B", an equipment ID of "0x001BA63F", an equipment contents ID of "0x0003", the number of times of check-out of "3", and the file name of thereof is "F:¥MyMusic¥Album¥02-Song-b.omg". The contents wherein the media contents ID is 3 has a music piece title of "Song-C",

an equipment ID of "0x001BA63F", an equipment contents ID of "0x00AF", the number of times of check-out of "3", and the file name of thereof is "F:¥MyMusic¥New¥01-Song-c.omg".

Description will be made regarding the icons corresponding to the rights information which are displayed on the display 20 by the GUI unit 101, with reference to the example shown in Figs. 8 and 9.

The GUI unit 101 displays on the display 20 a window containing a field 201 for displaying music piece titles and the like corresponding to the contents stored in the memory card 9.

In the event that the copy control flag corresponding to the contents stored in the memory card 9 is "1", and the equipment ID corresponding to the contents stored in the memory card 9 is the same as the equipment ID of the personal computer 1, this means that check-in is permitted for the contents, so the GUI unit 101 displays in the field 201 an icon 202-1 or 202-2 (e.g., an eighth note icon) indicating that check-in is permitted, in a manner corresponding to the music piece title or the like of the contents.

Fig. 9A is a drawing illustrating the icon 202-1 or 202-2. In the following description, the icons 202-1 and 202-2 will be referred to simply as icon 202, unless there is the need to distinguish between the individual icons 202-

1 and 202-2.

In the event that the copy control flag corresponding
to the contents stored in the memory card 9 is "3", this
means that importing is permitted for the contents, so the
GUI unit 101 displays in the field 201 an icon 203 (e.g., a
bass clef icon) indicating that importing is permitted, in a
manner corresponding to the music piece title or the like of
the contents.

Fig. 9B is a drawing illustrating the icon 203.

In the event that the copy control flag corresponding
to the contents stored in the memory card 9 is "1", and the
equipment ID corresponding to the contents stored in the
memory card 9 is not the same as the equipment ID of the
personal computer 1, this means that check-in is not
permitted for the contents, so the GUI unit 101 displays in
the field 201 an icon 204 (e.g., a quarter rest icon)
indicating that check-in is not permitted, in a manner
corresponding to the music piece title or the like of the
contents.

Fig. 9C is a drawing illustrating the icon 204.

In the event that the copy control flag corresponding
to the contents stored in the memory card 9 is "2", this
means that moving is permitted for the contents, so the GUI
unit 101 displays in the field 201 an icon 205 (e.g., a
sharp icon) indicating that moving is permitted, in a manner